

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 H-02 PA-01

PRS-01 OFA-01 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 OES-03 /100 W

----- 014625

R 052059Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4925

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, UNESCO, SF

SUBJECT: IOC NINTH ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED BEFORE VOTE TAKEN
ON RESOLUTION RE SOUTH AFRICAN EXCLUSION FROM
IOC

REF: PARIS 28715

1. THE NINTH ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL
OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION WAS ADJOURNED NOVEMBER 4 BY ITS
AUSTRALIAN CHAIRMAN (HUMPHREY) BEFORE A FURTHER AMENDED
RESOLUTION ON S.A. INTRODUCED BY AFRICANS COULD COME TO A VOTE.

2. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, SENEGAL SUCCESSFULLY LED EFFORT
NOV 3 TO INSCRIBE UNDER IOC AGENDA ITEM DEALING WITH
DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT ASSEMBLY (1977) A RESOLUTION
WHICH IN OPERATIVE PARA RECOMMENDED TO UNESCO'S GENERAL
CONFERENCE (1976) THAT IT UNDERTAKE TO EXCLUDE SOUTH
AFRICA FROM IOC UNTIL LATTER'S POLICIES OF RACIAL
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DISCRIMINATION ENDED. HOWEVER, OPERATIVE PARA WAS

FURTHER AMENDED NOV 4 TO READ: "RECOMMENDS TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO TO MODIFY THE STATUTES OF THE COMMISSION TO EXCLUDE SOUTH AFRICA." AMENDMENT APPARENTLY PROMPTED BY CONSIDERATION OF FACT THAT IOC STATUTES DO NOT PROVIDE FOR SUSPENSION OR EXCLUSION OF MEMBERSHIP OF MEMBER STATES.

3. DUE TIME-CONSUMING PROCESS OF MAKING MINOR REVISIONS AND REACHING FINAL PLENARY SESSION APPROVAL ON NUMEROUS OTHER IOC RESOLUTIONS, AGENDA ITEM UNDER WHICH AFRICAN RESOLUTION INSCRIBED HAD NOT YET BEEN REACHED WHEN CLOCK SHOWED ONLY HALF AN HOUR REMAINING BEFORE END OF THIS FINAL PLENARY SESSION. SENEGALESE DEPUTY PERMREP MOVED FOR IMMEDIATE VOTE ON NEWLY AMENDED RESOLUTION TEXT BY SIMPLE MAJORITY CHAIRMAN AGREED BUT ONLY ON CONDITION THAT THERE BE NO EXPLANATIONS OF POSITION OR VOTE MADE ORALLY; WRITTEN STATEMENTS ALONE COULD BE SUBMITTED FOR INSERTION INTO ASSEMBLY RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS. USDEL CHAIRMAN (WALLACE) INTERVENED TO INSIST ON RIGHT TO MAKE A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF VOTE. PERM DELOFF AND WALLACE HAD PREVIOUSLY AGREED THAT, AS US HAD RAISED PROCEDURAL POINTS IN LENGTHY NOVEMBER 3 DEBATES ON RESOLUTION'S INSCRIPTION ON THE AGENDA, IT WAS ESSENTIAL FOR US TO MAKE CLEAR THAT US IN NO WAY DEFENDING APARTHEID BUT RATHER OBJECTING TO POLITICIZATION OF DELIBERATIONS OF A SCIENTIFIC AGENCY. USDEL CHAIRMAN, WHEN AGAIN DENIED RIGHT TO MAKE ORAL EXPLANATION OF VOTE, SAID THAT THE US WISHED TO MAKE POINT OF ORDER CITING IOC RULE OF PROCEDURE (NO.56, PARA 3) REQUIRING MAJORITY OF ALL 86 IOC MEMBER STATES--AS DISTINCT FROM SIMPLE MAJORITY THOSE PRESENT IN VOTING--BEFORE ANY RECOMMENDATION FOR CHANGE OF IOC STATUTES COULD BE ADOPTED.

4. WITH ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES NOW REMAINING, AUSTRALIAN CHAIRMAN CONSULTED RULES OF PROCEDURE AND DECIDED US WAS CORRECT. SENEGALESE CHALLENGED, AND POINTING TO UNESCO'S LEGAL ADVISER WHO HAD JUST ENTERED ASSEMBLY HALL, ASKED FOR LATTER'S RULING. LEGAL ADVISER UPHELD CHAIR'S RULING. SENEGALESE, WITH LEBANESE SUPPORT, THEN MADE LENGTHY CHALLENGE OF LEGAL ADVISER'S RULING. LATTER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HELD FIRM. BY THE TIME THESE LENGTHY AND CONFUSED EXCHANGES WERE COMPLETED IT WAS 6 P.M. WHEREUPON CHAIR, WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED HIS FIRM INTENTION TO CLOSE MEETING AT PRESCRIBED HOUR, DECLARED MEETING ADJOURNED. CHAIR'S RULING STUNNED EVERYONE AND SEVERAL AFRICANS, BUT NOT INCLUDING SENEGAL, SHOUTED ACCUSATIONS OF UN-DEMOCRATIC CHAIRING.

5. COMMENT: FURTHER ACTION IN IOC AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA POSTPONED UNTIL ITS NEXT ASSEMBLY, LIKELY TO BE HELD IN NOVEMBER 1977, ALTHOUGH ANTI-SOUTH AFRICAN RESOLUTIONS WITHOUT FINAL EFFECT ON THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN IOC MAY BE ANTICIPATED AT UNESCO'S NEXT EXECUTIVE BOARD SESSION

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(APRIL - MAY, 1976) AND/OR UNESCO'S NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE WHICH WILL BE HELD OCTOBER - NOVEMBER, 1976 IN NAIROBI. SENEGALESE DEPUTY PERMREP TOLD DELOFF THAT AFRICANS INTENDED TO MAKE DEMARCHES TO UNESCO'S DIRECTOR GENERAL/ PROTESTING CONDUCT OF IOC ASSEMBLY, AND MENTIONED THAT SOME AFRICANS MAY SEEK TO BRING UP SOUTH AFRICAN ISSUE IN LAW OF SEA MEETINGS ELSEWHERE. AUSTRALIA, IN PARTICULAR, MAY BE THE OBJECT OF AFRICAN DEMARCHES IN CANBERRA.

6. AFRICAN TEMPERS WILL COOL BUT VERY BITTER MEMORIES LIKELY TO REMAIN. US CRITICIZED NEITHER IN MEETING NOR

IN CORRIDORS BY AFRICANS WHO INDICATED TO DELOFF THEIR
ACCEPTANCE THAT US HAD MADE LEGITIMATE PROCEDURAL POINT.
HOWEVER, CHAIRMAN HUMPHREY, AND BY EXTENSION AUSTRALIA,
WAS THE OBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE ANGER.

7. IRONICALLY, HAD AFRICANS NOT AMENDED FINAL TEXT TO
MAKE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO MODIFICATION OF IOC STATUTES,
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VOTE WOULD NOT HAVE REQUIRED MAJORITY OF ALL IOC MEMBER
STATES.

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